

MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING OF
THE NEBRASKA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION.

The twenty-first annual meeting of the Nebraska Ornithologists Union was held at Lincoln, Nebraska, Friday and Saturday, May 14 and 15, 1920. The members and their guests assembled in the study collection room on the first floor of Bessey Hall at the University of Nebraska at 1:00 p. m. and spent the following hour and a half in examining study skins, especially of warblers, sparrows and flycatchers. At 2:30 p. m. removal was made to the Zoölogy Lecture Room on the second floor of the building to hear the program of papers.

The retiring President, Mr. C. A. Black, of Kearney, gave his address on "Bird Records and Glimpses of Bird Life in Western Nebraska," in which he summarized some of his most interesting and important records and observations. Following the President's address, Dr. R. H. Wolcott gave an account of the "Nebraska Flycatchers," illustrated with specimens in which he pointed out the best points for field identification, interpolating many personal observations on the habits of the birds of this family. Professor R. W. Dawson then presented a summary of the bird migration of the spring of 1920, to date, concluding his remarks with a general discussion of the lateness of many migrants this spring as compared with their average date of arrival, according to his data for the preceding ten springs. Professor M. H. Swenk concluded the program with a brief synopsis of the general habits of the Bohemian Waxwing, and an account of the influx of these birds into the state during the winter of 1919-20, and also an account of two nestings of the Red Crossbill in Nebraska in the spring of 1920, exhibiting the nest of the second record. About forty persons were present at the program.

At 4:00 p. m. the business of the meeting was taken up, with President C. A. Black in the chair. The reports of the officers were received and committees appointed. Messrs. R. W. Dawson and A. M. Brooking were appointed to audit the financial statement of the Secretary-Treasurer, while C. E. Mickel and Mrs. L. H. McKillip were appointed to act as a Nominating Committee.

While these committees were preparing their reports, the society proceeded with the election of new members, and Mrs. E. H. Polley, of Lincoln, Miss Mary St. Martin, of Wahoo, and Miss Lena Deweese, of Dawson, were formally elected to membership.

The Nominating Committee having reported, the following were elected as officers for 1920:

President—Dr. H. B. Lowry, Lincoln

Vice-President—Miss Blanche Garten, Lincoln

Secretary-Treasurer—Mr. M. H. Swenk, Lincoln

The report of the Auditing Committee was then received, in which it was stated that the accounts of the Treasurer had been found to be correct. Upon motion this report was accepted by the society. Prof. M. H. Swenk then reported for the committee appointed at the last meeting to investigate and report on the feasibility of the early publication of a new edition of the "Birds of Nebraska." The report of the committee recommended delay.

Mrs. A. E. Sheldon drew attention to the wording of Article 9 of the proposed Amendment 27 to the Constitution of the State of Nebraska, as adopted at the recent Constitutional Convention, pointing out that this amendment was even more unfavorable to forestation in the state than the existing law, under which forestation was decreasing, as it omitted exemption from taxation for improvements of fruit trees and groves, which were exempted under the present law. It was moved by Mrs. Sheldon and seconded by Dr. Wolcott that it be the sentiment of the N. O. U. that this amendment should not be adopted, and that the Secretary put in words the expressed sentiment of the Society and give publicity thereto. Carried.

Eleven members were present at this session of the N. O. U., as follows: Mesdames Blanche Garten, H. C. Johnson, L. H. McKillip and A. E. Sheldon, and Messrs. C. A. Black, A. M. Brooking, R. W. Dawson, H. B. Lowry, C. E. Mickel, M. H. Swenk and R. H. Wolcott

The session adjourned at 5:15 p. m. after final arrangements for the field day on Saturday.

On Saturday, May 15, the eighteenth annual field day of the Union was held. The field party left Lincoln at 6:45 for Ashland, Nebraska, arriving there at 7:30 a. m. Division was then made into two parties, the larger one of which worked southeast along the C. B. & Q. railroad right of way bordering the Platte river to South Bend, a distance of eight miles, stopping occasionally to work back into the wooded ravines along the route, while the smaller party explored the ravines near Ashland at greater length, returning to Ashland instead of continuing to South Bend. Both parties reached Ashland at 4:30 p. m., from which place the members dispersed. The total list of the day included eighty birds, as follows:

Bluebird, Robin, Olive-backed Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Wood Thrush, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Long-tailed Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-bellied Nuthatch, Long-billed Marsh Wren, Western House Wren, Carolina Wren, Brown Thrasher, Catbird, Redstart, Yellow-breasted Chat, Maryland Yellow-throat, Grinnell Water-Thrush, Oven-bird, Blackburnian Warbler, Black-poll Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Tennessee

Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, Black and White Warbler, Bell's Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Rough-winged Swallow, Bank Swallow Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Scarlet Tanager, Dickcissel, Indigo Bunting, Western Blue Grosbeak, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Cardinal, Towhee, Lincoln Sparrow, Western Field Sparrow, Clay-colored Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Lark Sparrow, Western Grasshopper Sparrow, Pine Siskin, Goldfinch, Bronzed Grackle, Baltimore Oriole, Orchard Oriole, Meadowlark, Western Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Cowbird, Crow, Blue Jay, Thriall's Flycatcher, Wood Pewee, Phoebe, Great Crested Flycatcher, Kingbird, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Chimney Swift, Northern Flicker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Belted Kingfisher, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Great Horned Owl, Red-tailed Hawk, Cooper Hawk, Western Mourning Dove, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper and Green Heron.

Two nests of the Lark Sparrow were found, one containing two eggs and an egg of the Cowbird, the other five eggs. A nesting pair of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers was also located.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER, 1919-20

RECEIPTS

Cash on hand, May 9, 1919.....	\$ 37.60
Annual dues collected.....	112.00
Interest on investment.....	12.74
Sale of publications.....	2.35
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	\$164.69

EXPENDITURES

Wilson Bulletin	\$ 66.00
Postage	4.60
Sign for Hastings meeting.....	1.00
Fund invested	49.50
Balance on hand, May 14, 1920.....	43.59
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	\$164.69